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## WAR NEWS.

Middle Tennessee is again the scene of active war. At an early hour on Sunday morning a force of Confederate cavalry under Col. Forrest, supposed to number about six thousand, attacked two Federal regiments, the 9th Michigan and 3d Minnesota, and a battery of artillery, at Murfreesboro, and after desperate fighting on both sides, the Federal troops were forced to surrender, and Murfreesboro captured. Among the prisoners taken were Gen. Crittenden, of Indiana, Gen. Duffield, and several other officers. The Confederates at last accounts were advancing on Nashville, which is thirty-two miles northwest of Murfreesboro. Great excitement prevailed at Nashville, and an early attack was expected. If compelled to yield it is said the Federal troops will shell the city, a battery being already in position for that purpose.

Col. Morgan's band of Confederate Cavalry were reported to be only twelve miles south of Frankfort, the capitol of the State of Kentucky, on Sunday afternoon. It is also reported that the State archives were being removed to a place of safety.

A dispatch from Corinth states that the Confederate Cavalry have been making some mysterious movements near Booneville. The Federal troops have fallen back to Ramsey, twelve miles south of Corinth. It is believed that the movement is designed to cover a flank reinforcement of Chattanooga.

It is stated that a band of Confederates on the 10th inst., captured the town of Memphis, in North Missouri, and carried off ninety Union citizens.

Memphis dispatches to a Northern paper report that Gen. Curtis attacked and defeated five hundred Confederates near Batesville, on the 8th instant. A Southern paper tells another story, stating that recently a foraging party from Gen. Curtis' army, consisting of one thousand men were attacked and nearly all killed, but few being taken alive.

Gen. Pope has issued an address to the "Army of Virginia," dated Washington, July 14, in which he states that his policy will be attack and not defence, and that the troops must discard all such phrases as "lines of defence" and "bases of supplies," and be prepared to push forward. He says:—"Success and glory are in the advance; disaster and shame lurk in the rear."

The U. S. forces are in Warrenton, Va., in large numbers. Col. Bates is the Provost Marshal there. Almost all the stores in the village are occupied by army sutlers.

The steamer Mount Washington has arrived at Washington, from Norfolk, with the prize schooner Director, captured some time since in York river. Both the prize and steamer have on board a quantity of bolt copper from the Norfolk Navy Yard.

The Baltimore arrived in Washington yesterday, towing up the Confederate gunboat Teaser and the prize schooner Coaster. The Teaser, which was captured during the late engagement near City Point, James river, as the Confederates were about to send up a balloon from her, is a small tugboat, armed with a 9-pound rifle gun forward, and a rifled 32-pounder aft. The boiler was struck by a shell, which exploded and knocked down her smokestack, tearing her works and throwing the boiler two feet from its original position.

The Baltimore American referring to the late movements of the Federal army at Culpeper Court House says:—"We do not know whether this was a mere reconnoissance or the advance in that direction of Gen. Pope's Army. If the latter, a movement towards Gordonsville, some fifteen miles distant, is probably designed."

A letter from New York says that the Confederate prisoners lately at Governor's Island, New York, will be taken to "Pea Patch Island," in the Delaware river, where three or four hundred of their companions were taken in the Cahawba two or three days ago. The island whereon Fort Delaware is situated contains, perhaps, thirty acres of land, and affords ample room for the fifteen hundred Confederates who will soon be there, and for many others. They will be kept principally in tents."

The Petersburg Express of Wednesday says:—"Several of the Federal gunboats came up the river on Sunday evening last, and proceeded several miles beyond City Point. They fired many shells into the forest on the south bank of the James river, but did no damage to any human being or any habitation of man."

The cannon captured by the Confederates during the recent battles were all brought into Richmond, numbering about twenty-three pieces, some of them howitzers, and three army rifled guns. They were all light pieces, and with the exception of the howitzers, and one English gun, were sent to the foundry to be recast.

The Federal and Confederate pickets came into collision at Williamsburg on Friday, where three of the latter are said to have been killed and seven taken prisoners.

A telegram from Vicksburg reports that the bombardment of that place was tremendous and unceasing, but that the Confederate loss thus far was only six killed and one wounded. The inhabitants had taken refuge in the woods.—The Confederates express the opinion that Vicksburg cannot be taken.

Fort Darling has been greatly strengthened, and the batteries are iron-clad. A whole division of the Confederate army had also crossed the James river on a pontoon bridge, to assist in its defense against any land force.

The Northern papers publish an account from the Richmond papers, stating that the Eighth Virginia regiment in the late battles was commanded by Col. Eppa Hunton. The total killed in the regiment was 8;—wounded, 52. Col. Hunton had just returned from a

spell of sickness, but though weak and emaciated led his troops throughout. Maj. Edmund Berkely, of the same regiment, is also mentioned with distinction.

The Richmond Despatch of Monday says:—"It is not believed that Gen. McClellan can be induced to make an attack upon the Confederate forces, but it is conjectured he may attempt to throw his forces on the south side of the river with a view to a demonstration upon the batteries at Drury's Bluff. Such a demonstration would, of course, be promptly met."

The Pittsburg Sanitary Committee, which was left at Savage's Station, was captured by the Confederates and sent to Richmond.

The U. S. Senate yesterday took up the bill to admit the State of West Virginia into the Union, and adopted the House bill as a substitute, with an amendment, and it was passed—yeas 23, nays 17. It makes provision for the gradual abolishment of slavery. The House bill requiring commanders of American vessels sailing to foreign ports to take the oath of allegiance, was passed, with an amendment that all persons prosecuting claims before the Departments in Washington be required to take the oath of allegiance also.—Several other important bills were also passed, including the one to equalize the grade of officers of the navy.

The House concurred in the Senate resolution to adjourn to-morrow, and passed the bill making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of government, including half a million of dollars on account of the emancipation of slaves in the District of Columbia, and those made free under the confiscation bill. A bill was also passed to impose an additional tax of one ct. on all sugar (except sorghum) produced in the United States. A message was received from the President, transmitting the draft of a bill to compensate any State which may abolish slavery within its limits, the passage of which, substantially as presented, he respectfully recommends. It was referred to the committee on confiscation.

The obstructions on the James river were it is said weakened by the recent floods. One of the sunken vessels had so swung around that the Teaser was able to pass through, and was soon after captured.

The death of Lord Canning has aroused the British public to the fearful unhealthiness of the Indian climate. All but a very few of the great men of the nation who have been sent to India on government duty, have died of fevers contracted while residing there. But the London Times says that the mortality of British residents in India is decreasing, and very often the fatal effect is to be traced rather to the sudden change in returning to England, than to the Indian residence.

The Yelverton libel case, growing out of the famous divorce case of the same name, has just been decided in Edinburg by a verdict for the plaintiff (Mrs. Yelverton). Damages £500.